The Lions' Pride

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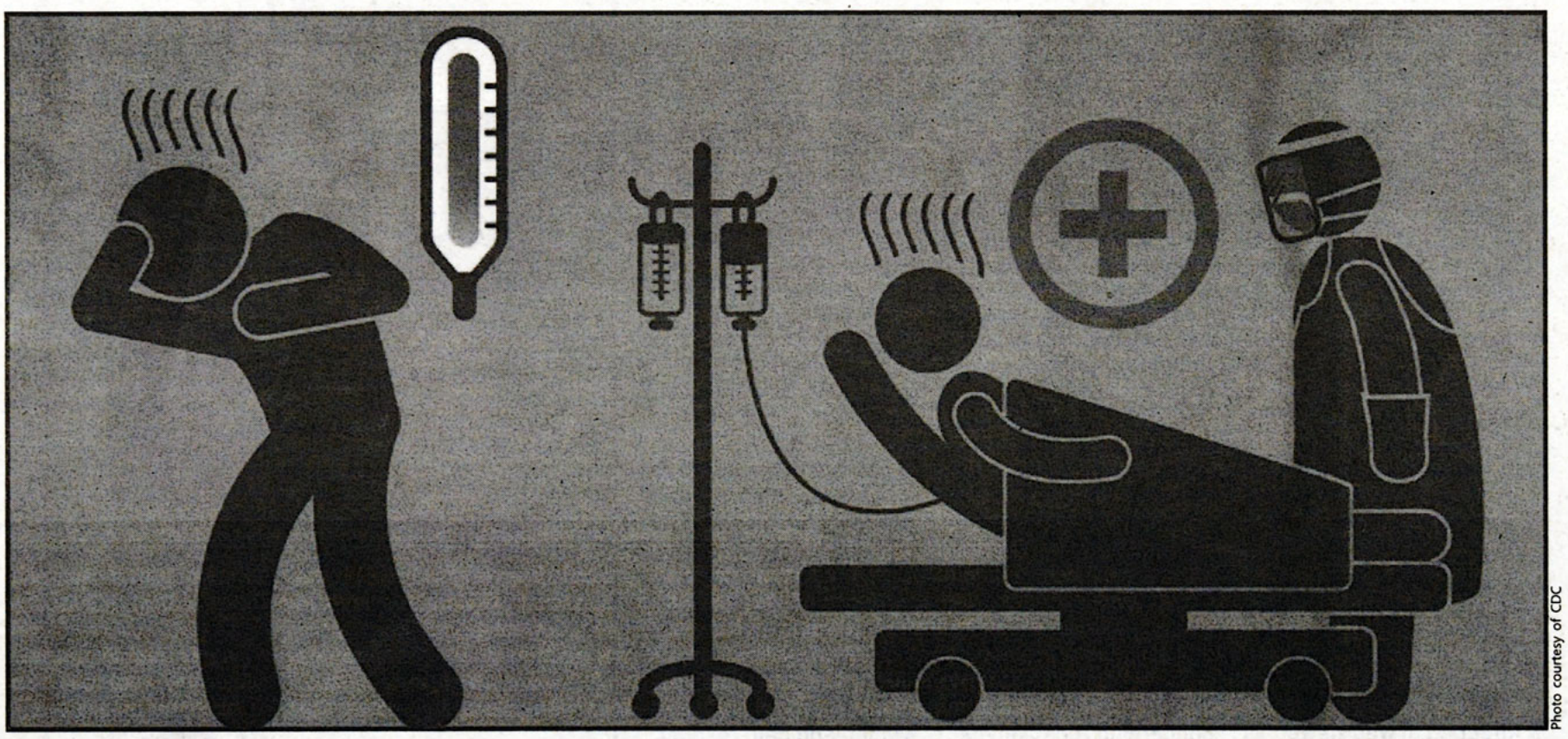

Photo courtesy of CDC

Viral outbreak across the Midwest and Southeast causes grave concern for Florida

By Cassidy Whitaker
Contributing Writer

A viral outbreak is always alarming and unsettling, but the latest one is slightly more concerning than normal due to the fact that it is only affecting children. In recent weeks, a vicious respiratory virus broke out across the Midwest and the Southeast. Less than one hundred cases of this virus have been reported since its discovery in the sixties. Probably the most frightening aspect of the virus is that very little is known about it and its effects.

The technical name is Enterovirus, but the specific type of this virus that is hospitalizing so many children is D68. Many refer to it as EV-D68. Enteroviruses, as a whole, are not extremely serious issues to worry about and typically do not give any reason to be greatly concerned. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the symptoms of a typical, mild Enterovirus include respiratory or gastrointestinal issues such as fever, runny nose, sneezing, cough and body and muscle aches. However, the D68 strain causes much more severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing and wheezing. Its victims are often hospitalized.

The states reportedly exposed to the virus are the following: Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Utah. These states have reported strangely large numbers of hospitalized children for respiratory issues to the CDC. Only half of those states, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, and Missouri, have cases confirmed by a CDC laboratory as being infected by the D68 strain of the Enterovirus. The cases of sick children in the other states are still being investigated by the CDC.

The reason this virus is spreading so rapidly is believed to be because school is back in session. The virus broke out in mid-August and has continued to inflict symptoms upon children all across the Midwest and the Southeast during the heart of back to school season. According to the CDC, the virus is most commonly found in respiratory secretions and typically spread by an infected person coughing, sneezing or contaminating surfaces through touch. This is likely why so many schoolchildren are becoming ill.

Georgia is one of the states that reported children with EV-D68 symptoms. This has raised concern in neighboring states like Florida. While the children in Georgia have not yet been confirmed by the CDC to actually have the specific D68 version of the virus, their symptoms have been reported to be very similar to children that have EV-D68.

"This is a scary situation. I have six younger siblings, so this outbreak affecting so many children is definitely a little bit worrisome to me. This is obviously a really big deal, so I definitely worry that it will spread to us here in Florida," said Freshman Alexander Wimmer who is a native of Georgia.

According to the CDC, most hospitals and doctor offices can test for Enteroviruses; however, the majority of these are unable to test for specific types of the virus like EV-D68. Only state health departments and the CDC can test for specific viruses.

There is no cure for EV-D68. There are treatment methods for mild types of the Enterovirus, but there is no medication potent enough to cure the many sick children across the country. There is also no vaccine to protect future victims.

The CDC is requesting that people take cautious measures to avoid catching the virus. They suggest that people frequently wash their hands, avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unclean hands, avoid physical contact with others, and avoid sharing food, drinks, and utensils with others. Disinfecting regularly contacted surfaces will also help.

The CDC is working hard with state and local health departments and clinical and state laboratories to improve their ability to detect, diagnose and handle this virus.

Still Time to Get Your Study On

By Rikki-Ann Hussey
Contributing Writer

The Daniel A. Cannon Memorial Library had limited its hours the first two weeks of school. As of Sept. 7, the library resumed its usual schedule, opening at 8 a.m. and closing at 2 a.m.

"For the first two weeks we close at 12 p. m. We have always done that," said Brent Short, Director of Library Services.

Students have access to the library for 17 hours from Sunday to Thursday, and 11 hours Fridays and Saturdays.

Having access to the library during this time gives all the University students the resources needed to further their studies. All students as well as faculty have the privilege of receiving free access to the printers and scanners. There is also complimentary tea and coffee.

"The library has so many great resources at my fingertips. The space is especially useful when I am working on group projects," said Junior Taylor Callahan.

Most of the University students are happy that they have access to the library, and are pleased with the closing time being 2 a.m. Some students expressed their opinions on lengthening the library time, especially on weekends.

"I wish the library was open later on weekends," said Sophomore Eric Lang.

But overall University students feel library hours give them ample time to get all their assignments and projects done.

"I love studying at the library and having the library open so late is great whenever I have lots of homework," said Freshman Brittany Tercero.

Local News

What Should Rice Do Now?

By Danny Stockton
Contributing Writer

What would you do if you were in a public scandal and everyone thought differently of you? I'm sure it wouldn't be as large as domestic violence and hitting someone you are supposed to love. In Feb. of 2014, Ray Rice, the Baltimore Ravens' running back, was caught dragging his unconscious fiancée out of an elevator. Rice, at this point, was arrested for domestic violence and had a two-game suspension from the NFL. Before the trial, Janay Palmer (his fiancée, who is now his wife) dropped all charges. After all charges were dropped, it was viewed as the end of the incident; however, a second video of the same incident was released to the public from TMZ showing Rice attacking and knocking out his fiancée before dragging her out of the elevator. The public outrage of a NFL player being violent against a woman led the Ravens to terminate Rice's contract, and the commissioner of the NFL, Roger Goodell, to suspend Rice indefinitely.

There is another incident where a different NFL player, Michael Vick, was convicted for animal cruelty. Michael Vick spent two years in prison and was suspended indefinitely from the NFL, but since his release, he has realized that his actions were wrong. He admits that he is trying to change and learn from his ways by getting a pet dog to teach his children how to care for animals. Vick is also a part of an anti-dogfighting cause. He visits different locations, giving speeches about what he did, his experience in jail, and how he knows how wrong it was for him to do what he did to animals. Now Vick plays for the New York Jets, so there is no telling what the NFL will do with the incident concerning Rice. Maybe they will take Rice back into the NFL if he shows he has changed and is going to take responsibility for his actions.

Dr. Victoria Anyikwa, a graduate associate professor of social work, said this is a society issue not a public issue. There are one out of three women who have been hit in a domestic violence case that report actually being hit. Rice is not the only one at fault in this incident. According to Dr. Anyikwa, the media also is at fault for not only replaying and re-victimizing Mrs. Rice, but for having little concern for how this incident impacts and affects her and their children.

So what exactly should Rice do now? Rice's behavior got the better of him; it damaged his image and let down many of his fans. It would be great if Rice could spend time in jail to fully understand what he did and to know how wrong it was. However, considering this would be Rice's first offense, he may only get off with probation and mandatory counseling. I think if Rice gets counseling and truly understands that what he did was wrong, it would be good for him to work on his relationship with women and gain respect from his wife. After counseling and accepting his mistakes, he should admit to the public how he was wrong and that no one should ever hit a woman. Also, since Rice is watched by the public, he became a face for domestic violence from this incident. Rice should try to talk about and give advice about domestic violence to bring awareness of this subject, such as how it not only affects the person being hit, but also their family members.

Photo Courtesy of Daniel Stockton

"It's bad, people shouldn't use violence as a form of action," said Isabella Sanchez (left). "It's wrong with what he did and it's something he and his wife will have to work on," said Everett Leozlowski (right).

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National News

Kristen Hadeed Gives Insight About Leadership

By Jessica Willing
Contributing Writer

On Sept. 10, Saint Leo University's CAB hosted a speaking event featuring CEO Kristen Hadeed. She spoke to a gathering of students on the subject of becoming a great leader by telling the story of how she founded and developed her company, Student Maid. A graduate of the University of Florida, she, along with a handful of friends, started cleaning houses when she was a student to make extra money. Hadeed, age 26, now runs a company that employs hundreds of students with a location in Gainesville and Pensacola. She is passionate about inspiring the millennial generation to disprove older generations' accusations of being lazy and unmotivated to work.

"It's really important that we transform as leaders now," Hadeed said. It was a lesson that she herself learned when she was 20 and began to pursue something more than cleaning houses. Things didn't take off for her company until she approached an apartment manager about putting up some fliers to attract clients. Instead, she was given the opportunity to expand her business not only to that apartment complex, but to the 23 other apartments in the area owned by the same company. Needless to say, Hadeed jumped at the opportunity -- and abruptly encountered several roadblocks.

Deciding to start a real business in order to take on the new workload, Hadeed immediately set out to acquire funds to get her business up and running. The process taught her the importance of tenacity. She applied 25 times for a business loan to banks in the area before one finally agreed to give her the loan. Hadeed laughingly recalled that the money was abruptly spent on an extravagant night out with friends to celebrate her success— and marketing items for her business. The problem was, she mistakenly chose Stay Clean for the name, unaware that it was already trademarked until it was too late. Forced to throw away all of her marketing items and business cards or face legal action from the original Stay Clean company, Hadeed found herself walking into a meeting of over 50 different cleaning services competing for business amongst the managers of each of the company's apartments.

Rather than be deterred, Hadeed gathered up her confidence and somehow managed to convince 9 of the managers present to use her company's service. After hiring over 50 new employees, Hadeed thought her job was done. She had gotten the company the business and the work needed to get the job done. Taking advantage of her position as the owner of the business, she turned her attention to planning outings and parties with her friends –- and received a rude awakening when 45 of her employees quit on that same day and told her they didn't want to work for her anymore. It was the wake-up call Hadeed needed to begin to take her role as leader seriously.

"Leadership is not a privilege to do less, but a responsibility to do more," Hadeed said in her address. She certainly applied this knowledge when she called every employee to a meeting and publically apologized for letting them down and not taking her responsibilities seriously. Hadeed managed to get everyone to agree to come back after she promised to be beside them, and instilled in them the vision she had of being the best cleaning service in Gainesville. From that day forward, Hadeed applied herself to growing as a leader and learning how to be a better one. She had several pieces of advice to share during her presentation.

Photo Courtesy of Kirsten Hadeed's Twitter

"Leadership is not a privilege to do less, but a responsibility to do more," said Hadeed.

As she told her story, Hadeed boiled down good leadership as being made up of four key ingredients:- vision, values, tough love, and relationships. Without vision, a leader and their organization is destined to go nowhere fast. Having a goal to work towards keeps everyone focused and on the ball with their performances. Hadeed stressed the importance of leaders deciding what values they live by, and choosing values that their organization's members will live by. She shared how difficult it was to put this in to practice with Student Maid, considering the fact that she ended up having to fire quite a few friends for the sake of making sure that all of her employees lived up to the standards she had chosen for the company. Tough love was another aspect of leadership Hadeed admitted to struggling with at first. However, she soon learned that it inspired her employees to do their best when they had a healthy respect -- and fear -- of her as their boss, while also certain that she had their best interests at heart. As for the final piece of the puzzle, Hadeed made it clear that relationships are often what will open doors that hard work alone may fail to.

"Being a leader is not 9-5," Hadeed said. It also involves making some tough decisions, such as when she turned down the opportunity to earn a six-figure salary when a job was offered to her after she graduated from UF. Making the tough choices is easier, she added, when you think about what job opportunities excite you. For a leader like Hadeed, choosing to be her own boss and run her company rather than make more money was an obvious choice.

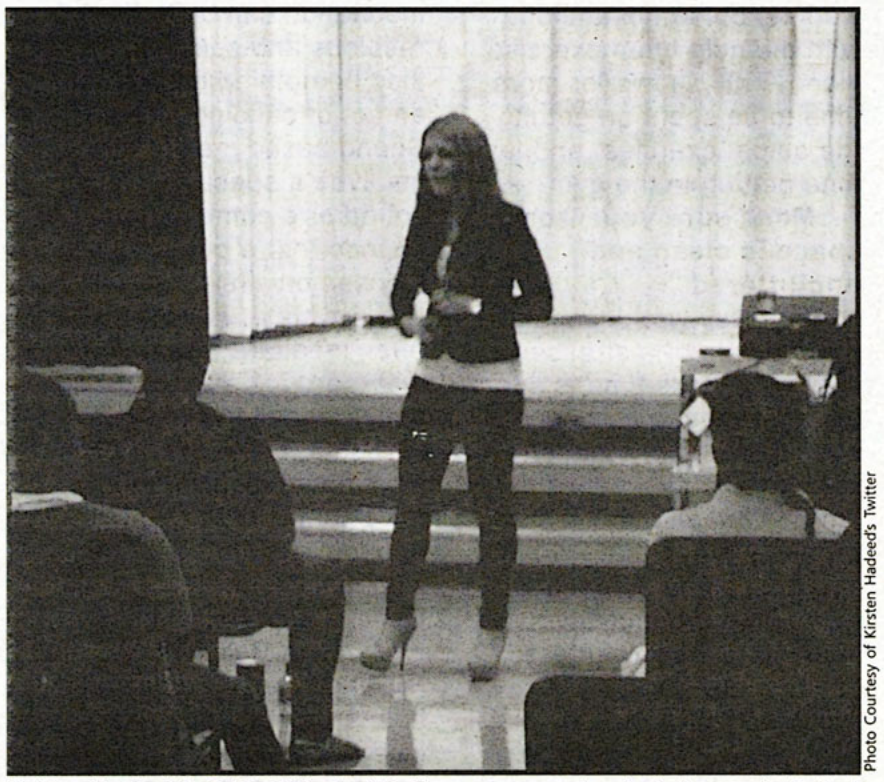


Photo Courtesy of Kirsten Hadeed's Twitter

Kristen Hadeed is CEO of Student Maid, a company she started as a student at The University of Florida.

Helping to Relieve

By Shawnee Arnett
Guest Writer

College is a stressful period in life, much in the same way that the sky is blue and water is wet. Students, especially around midterms and finals, often get themselves into a cycle of stressful events and behaviors that is hard to break out of. Habits that people pick up during stressful periods of life in order to alleviate it, however, often make the amount of stress that the person is facing even worse. Here are some tips on how to avoid bad stressful habits and how to effectively relieve some of that stress instead.

Don't let a 'to do' list take up most of your thoughts

Often, when a person is stressed, he or she only thinks about responsibilities and tasks that need to be completed. Though it is good to have an understanding of what one needs to do and in what time frame, focusing on it too intently will actually make the problem worse. The responsibilities will often appear to be more daunting than they truly are, and the person could end up struggling in other areas because of the pressure. Despite the common misconception that focusing only on responsibilities accelerates productivity, it can actually hinder it because people just don't function as well while under a lot of stress. Instead of allowing thisthis, incorporate a set amount of time in between responsibilities to do something enjoyable. Taking some time off to focus on a hobby or to simply relax will allow the person doing these activities to feel a bit less overwhelmed, which will, in turn, make it easier to focus when it is time to complete important tasks.

Listen to music

While some people actually use music as a tool to help them focus, it can be helpful to relieve stress for others, too. Music can have a significant impact on the mood of the listener, and the right kind of music can help to make a person feel less stressed while they are listening and for some time afterward. While working on a term paper or completing a task for work, consider listening to something soothing such as light Classical (Debussy's Clair De Lune is a good example) or spa music. On the same note, try to avoid fast paced songs or music that is representative of a particular negative emotion. Just as spa music can help to calm a person down, fast paced music can make a person feel more stressed and overwhelmed.

Remember to get exercise

Exercise is often one of the first regularly scheduled activities to go (if it is done at all) when a person is stressed. Exercise is often recommended as an activity to perform when stressed. Though exercise may seem to be a time consuming burden, it can actually help in alleviating stress. Taking just thirty minutes per day to accelerate one's heart rate can help a person release some of that pent built up stress energy, while a "runner's high" (a feeling of euphoria that can come along when a person exercises more strenuously) is a release of endorphins. If the person is actually able to release endorphins due to strenuous exercise, he or she will instantly feel better, as endorphins are known to alleviate pain and promote an overall feeling of happiness and contentment. Do not be worried about going to the gym during a day when there is little time to exercise, however. A person can get just as much exercise by going for a run outside or working out at home along with the help of an exercise video. This allows for more time to be spent on getting the actual exercise, and less time getting to the gym.

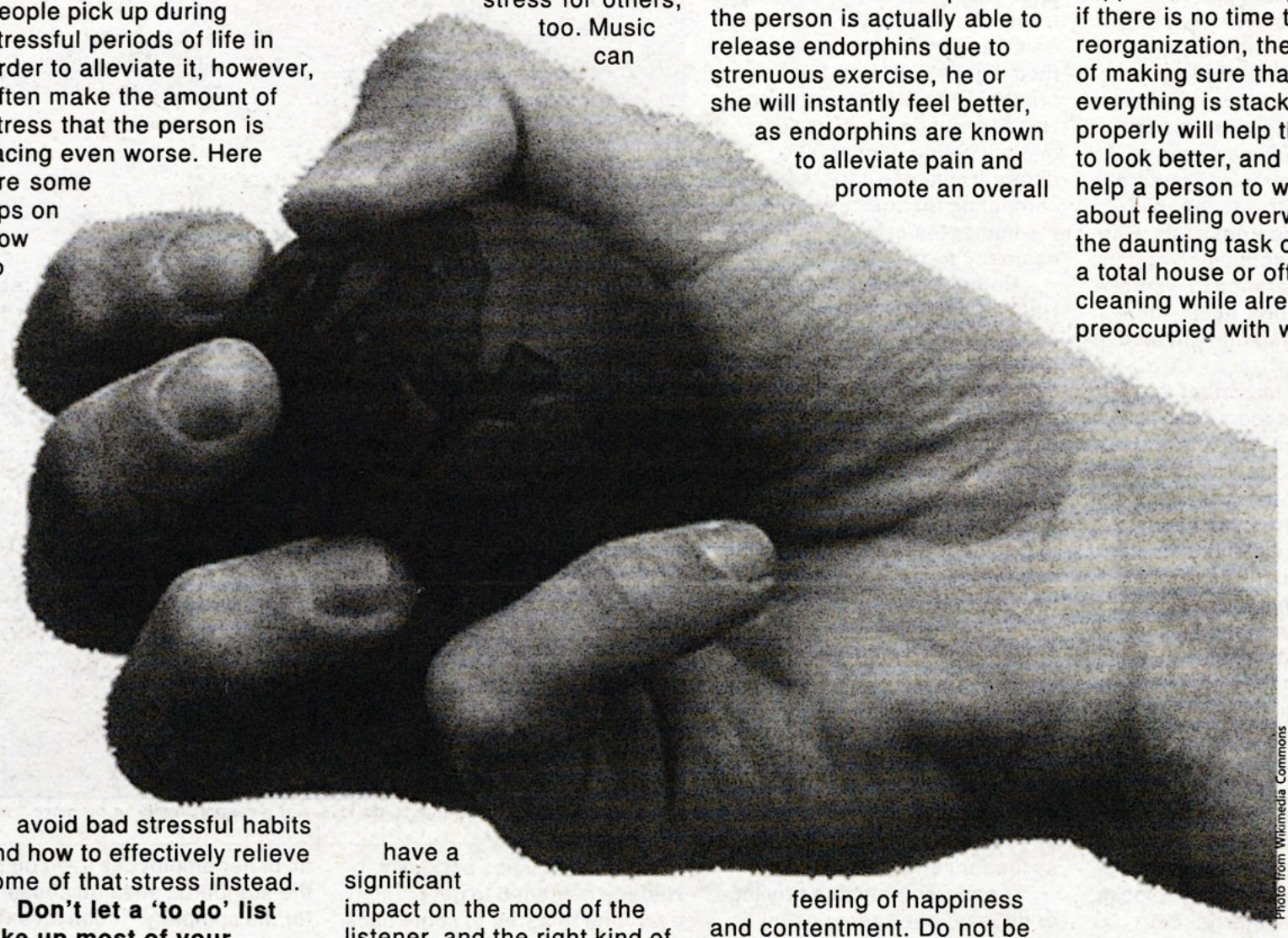


Photo from Wikimedia Commons

Make sure your work space is clean and uncluttered

A messy work space is often a sign of a stressed worker, as less time is spent on the appearance of one's space and more time is spent on finishing specific tasks. Though many would probably argue that worrying about cleaning a space takes away from productivity, keeping the area cluttered can actually hinder productivity. Clutter is suggestive of chaos, and a person looking at that clutter when he or she is already stressed with work can make that person feel overwhelmed and usually worried that there is more to complete than there actually is. Instead of allowing a cluttered space clutter the mind, stop all work for five to ten minutes. Take those few minutes to throw away a few things or simply put papers and other supplies into neat piles. Even if there is no time to do a full reorganization, the small act of making sure that everything is stacked properly will help the space to look better, and therefore help a person to worry less about feeling overwhelmed or the daunting task of fitting in a total house or office cleaning while already preoccupied with work.

Meditate

When people think of meditation, it is often accompanied by images of religious or spiritual significance. While meditation can be both religious and spiritual, it can also be nothing more than an act of calming oneself. Sound based meditation involves a specific calming sound or a combination of sounds that a person focuses on while in a relaxed state. People also often meditate without incorporating any sound; the act of just allowing one's thoughts to disappear or developing focused attention for a set period of time is enough. According to the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), meditation can help a person cope with illness, improve psychological balance, or

Stress For Students

enhances enhance one's health and overall well-being. Though specific evidence for changes in the body during meditation is not yet present, the National Center for Complementary and AlternativeNCCAM Medicine asasserts that meditation quite possibly helps to promote good health and could possibly be helpful in treating certain diseases and illnesses. More research has to be done in order to support this claim.

Talk to someone about it

Often, people deal with stress alone rather than speaking to others about it. This can sometimes be helpful if the amount of stress is minimal, but it can also be detrimental to a stressed person's wellness and lower productivity. The simple act of speaking to another person could simply allow a person to vocalize his or her stress, which can be cathartic. It can also be helpful in that the person one is speaking to may know a way to help with alleviating some of the stress. If life is getting too overwhelming and stress is a chronically occurring issue, consider seeing a counselor. Even if regular counseling sessions are not in order, a counselor can help a person to develop coping skills and redirect time management problems.

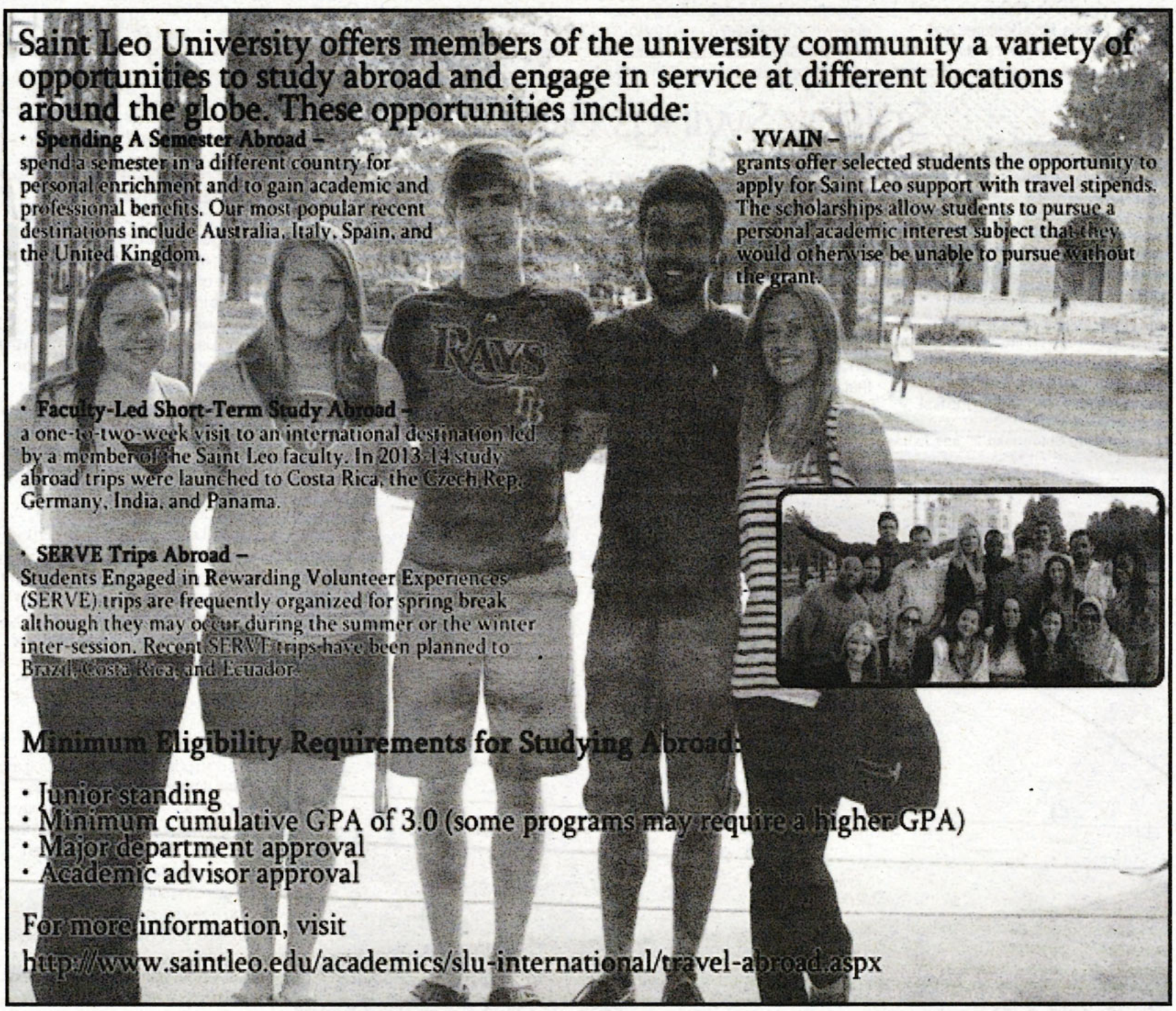
Learn to say no

It's easy for a person to get caught up in a stressful situation and accept more and more responsibilities from others in an attempt to be as productive and helpful as possible. The issue comes when a person has so many responsibilities that none of them get done properly, or even if one of them suffers because of it. It is far better to do a high quality job on a few tasks than to perform minimally on several tasks. If a person is feeling that he or she has mores too many responsibilities than it is possible to keep up with, that person should reevaluate all of his or her responsibilities and consider cutting some of the least important ones. Avoid accepting more responsibilities unless absolutely necessary, and learn to say no to people, even if it is difficult. It is far better to disappoint someone upfront and give that person the opportunity to find someone else to complete a specific task. Otherwise, you are not only making life more difficult for yourself, but you are also putting another person in a bad situation if it is impossible for the task to be completed well enough or on time.

Learn to laugh

Laughing may be the last thing that a person wants to do when dealing with so much stress, but it can be very helpful in promoting one's well-being. Laughter often releases endorphins, the same chemical that is released during a runner's high. Endorphins help to alleviate stress, and can also instantly put a person into a better mood. The simple act of laughing is not enough, however. When a person actively finds and enjoys something that makes him or her laugh, it makes the activity they are performinglife enjoyable as well. Consider watching a funny video, or telling jokes with friends, or visiting a comedy website on the internet. This will not only help a person find something to laugh about, but will also positively impact one's mood, which will in turn make stressors seem to be a bit less daunting.

Stress is a common occurrence in people's everyday lives and is often unavoidable at one point or another. However, rather than suffering through stress and dealing with the physical and psychological consequences of it, every person has the power to make life a bit more enjoyable, even if it is only for a few minutes.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• YVAIN – grants offer selected students the opportunity to apply for Saint Leo support with travel stipends. The scholarships allow students to pursue a personal academic interest subject that they would otherwise be unable to pursue without the grant.
• Faculty-Led Short-Term Study Abroad – a one-to-two-week visit to an international destination led by a member of the Saint Leo faculty. In 2013-14 study abroad trips were launched to Costa Rica, the Czech Rep, Germany, India, and Panama.
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Arts & Entertainment

The Sims 4: A Virtual Life for All to Play and Enjoy

By Austin Chiavaroli
Staff Writer

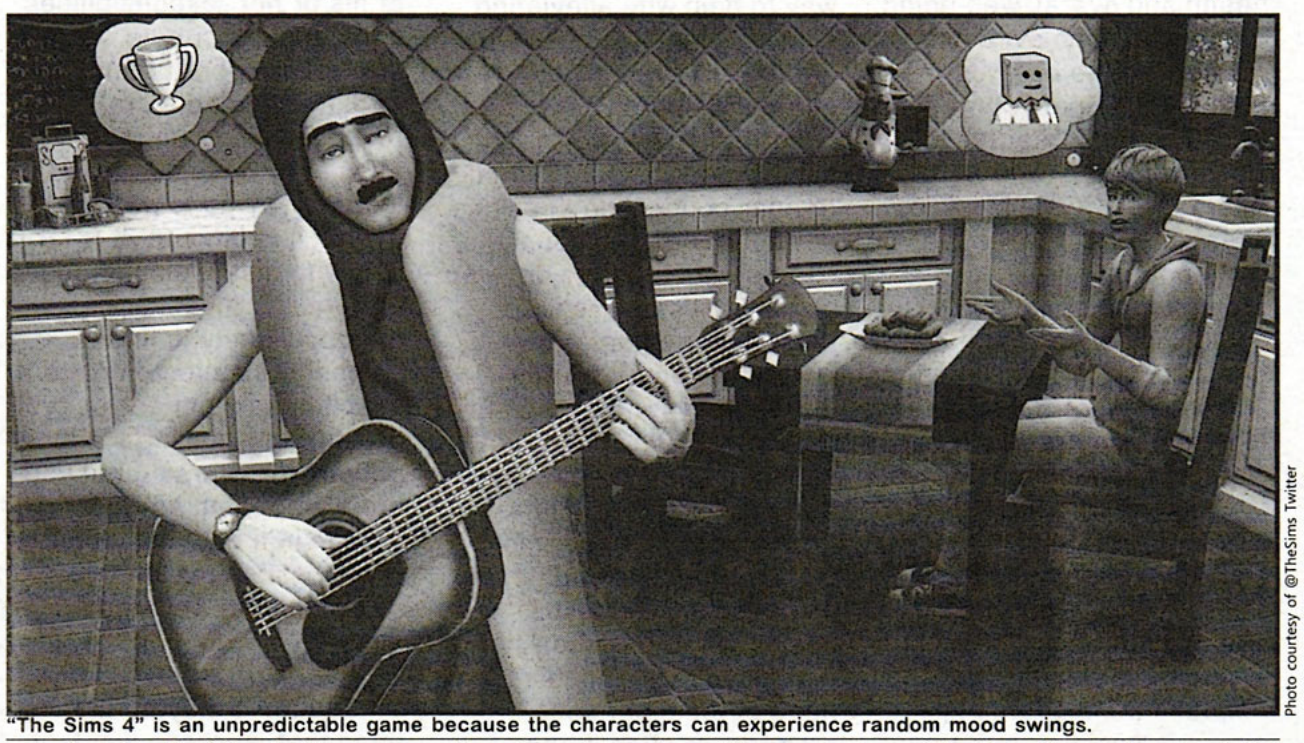


Photo courtesy of @TheSims Twitter

"The Sims 4" is an unpredictable game because the characters can experience random mood swings.

For the past five years, no new Sims games had been made until last week when the new EA game "The Sims 4" was released.

This life simulation game gives the player the choice of living a life in the world of the Sims, a virtual game world where the player makes their own Sim and perform regular, everyday routines and hobbies. However, with some expansions in the previous Sims games, the branch of reality has been stretched to have themes such as fantasy creatures, killer robots, and more. This creates an escape from the troubles of reality.

"The Sims 4" follows the pattern of past games by making the player get a job, try to start a relationship with another Sim in that world, and keep themselves clean and healthy. This hurts the game as there are only a few changes to how far the gameplay can go. It isn't like an MMO or an open world game that has multiple quests. The uniqueness has also worn its welcome as it is basically a copy of the past games. It is just cleaned up more with a few new features.

The Sims look better in this new game, giving the characters a broader variety of styles, facial features and body features. The mood and personality setting have been upgraded as well, making the Sims feel less robotic and more life-like. Emotional state gages still play a big role in the game as they have since the first Sims. For instance, if a Sim gets angry from how much the player is making them do, they will do more immature and gross things in the world that causes more problems for having a calm and balanced life in the game.

The issue with this is that it happens multiple times in the game even when the player doesn't try to make the Sim a certain personality. The game is created to have the Sims have different moods once in a while no matter if the player can keep them happy or not. Though this helps with making the game challenging, it is not as much fun as it is annoying to the player. This has been an issue in previous Sims games as many players can find it unfair to them for all of their hard work at keeping a very neutral level in the game. This issue can also make the game feel less realistic as this does not normally happen in reality. One day, your Sim can be perfectly fine and happy, and then the following day, be upset or depressed.

"The Sims 4" game is a very similar and repetitive version of its past games and in this case feels like a waste of production and time. However, many find the game just as fun as "The Sims 3" and "The Sims 2." Famous Youtubers, such as CaptainSparklez and PewDiePie, have begun playing it and have found the game amusing in certain instances. Old Sims players will find the game repetitive, and new players will find the game fun and unique.

Spidey Swings Back Into Action

By Austin Chiavaroli
Staff Writer

Marvel's "The Amazing Spiderman 2," directed by Marc Webb, has become a hit in the Marvel fan base for both children and adults alike.

Peter Parker (Andrew Garfield) is shaken up from his fight with the Lizard and the promise he made in the first movie about staying away from Gwen Stacey (Emma Stone). After Peter saves a stranger Max Dillon, (Jamie Foxx), Max becomes obsessed with Spiderman and soon, after a freak accident, he becomes the villain known as Electro. While this is all unfolding, Peter's friend, Harry Osborn (Dane Dehaan), returns home to his father who is dying from a genetic disease that will eventually kill Harry as well. It is now up to Peter to keep his love, Gwen Stacey, out of harm's way as he faces the new challenges thrown at him.

The movie, as a whole, is well written. The special effects are top notch, especially in the fighting sequences. Andrew Garfield still plays Peter Parker well showing an array of emotions in dealing with the death of his girlfriend's dad, with why his parents left him, and with the new enemies he has accidently created. The movie sets up for a sequel by showing weapons and technological utensils used by well-known Spiderman villains, like the robotic tentacles of Doc Oc and the mechanical wings of the Vulture. This movie is much closer to the comics than the original with just a few switches in how some of the villains obtain their powers.

"The Amazing Spiderman 2" has fantastic 3-D effects during the action scenes.

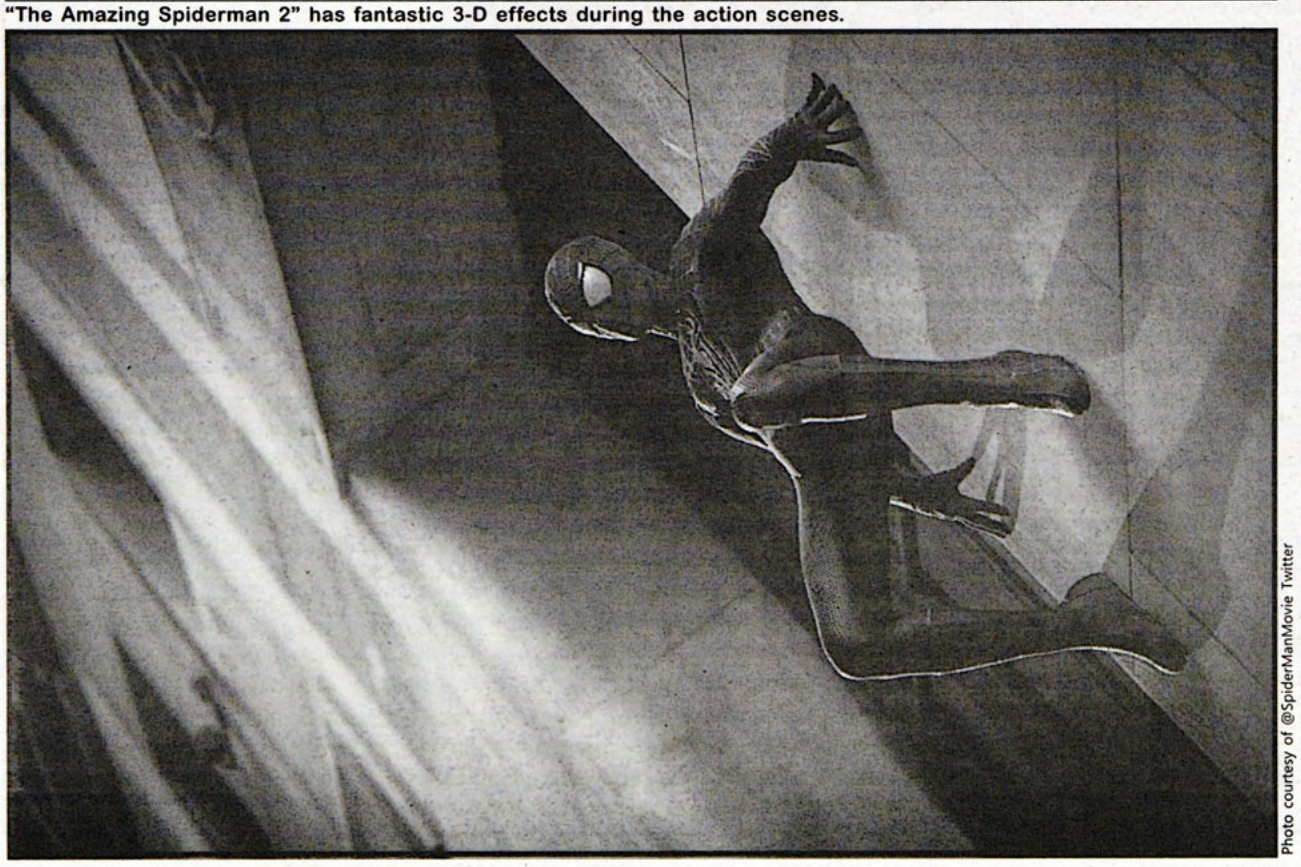


Photo courtesy of @SpiderManMovie Twitter

The issues with the movie lie in the villains themselves. There are multiple plots on multiple villains, which can sometimes be a bad thing. It can be hard for the audience to keep track of too many situations and stories in one single movie. Another issue with the movie is that the villains' desire to kill Spiderman feels unnecessary. For instance, because Spiderman can't give him his blood at the moment, Harry becomes impatient and plans on killing the web slinger. The music in the film is also lacking. The same repetitive songs appear all over the movie and some of the best orchestral songs feel mediocre due to echoing words being placed in the climactic portions.

With all of these issues in mind, it is still a good super hero movie. The actors do a phenomenal job playing as all of the comic book characters and the fight scenes are worth the money to see. However, if you have not seen the first movie "The Amazing Spiderman," then you will have a hard time understanding some of the reasons behind a few scenes. It is a sequel and is carried on from the first movie, like a good sequel should. If you are a fan of Marvel, Spiderman or superheroes then it is definitely worth a watch.

Arts & Entertainment

An Attempt at Reviving the Robocop

By Jonah Robertson
Contributing Writer

All photos courtesy of @RoboCopMovie Twitter

Robocop was created to be a more human crime-fighting machine.

The 2014 reboot of "Robocop," directed by Jose Padilha, was a bit underwhelming, but still worth a watch if you have nothing better to do.

The film begins with Pat Novak (Samuel L. Jackson) giving a news report on America's policing of other nations with drones. The American populace doesn't like this policy in their home country, so Raymond Sellars (Michael Keaton), the creator of the drones, decides to try to combine his technology with a human police officer in order to appeal to the public. He decides to use Alex Murphy (Joel Kinnaman), a Detroit cop who is almost killed in an explosion. Murphy is turned into a cyborg police officer and is let loose onto the streets of Detroit to deal out a more superhuman brand of justice.

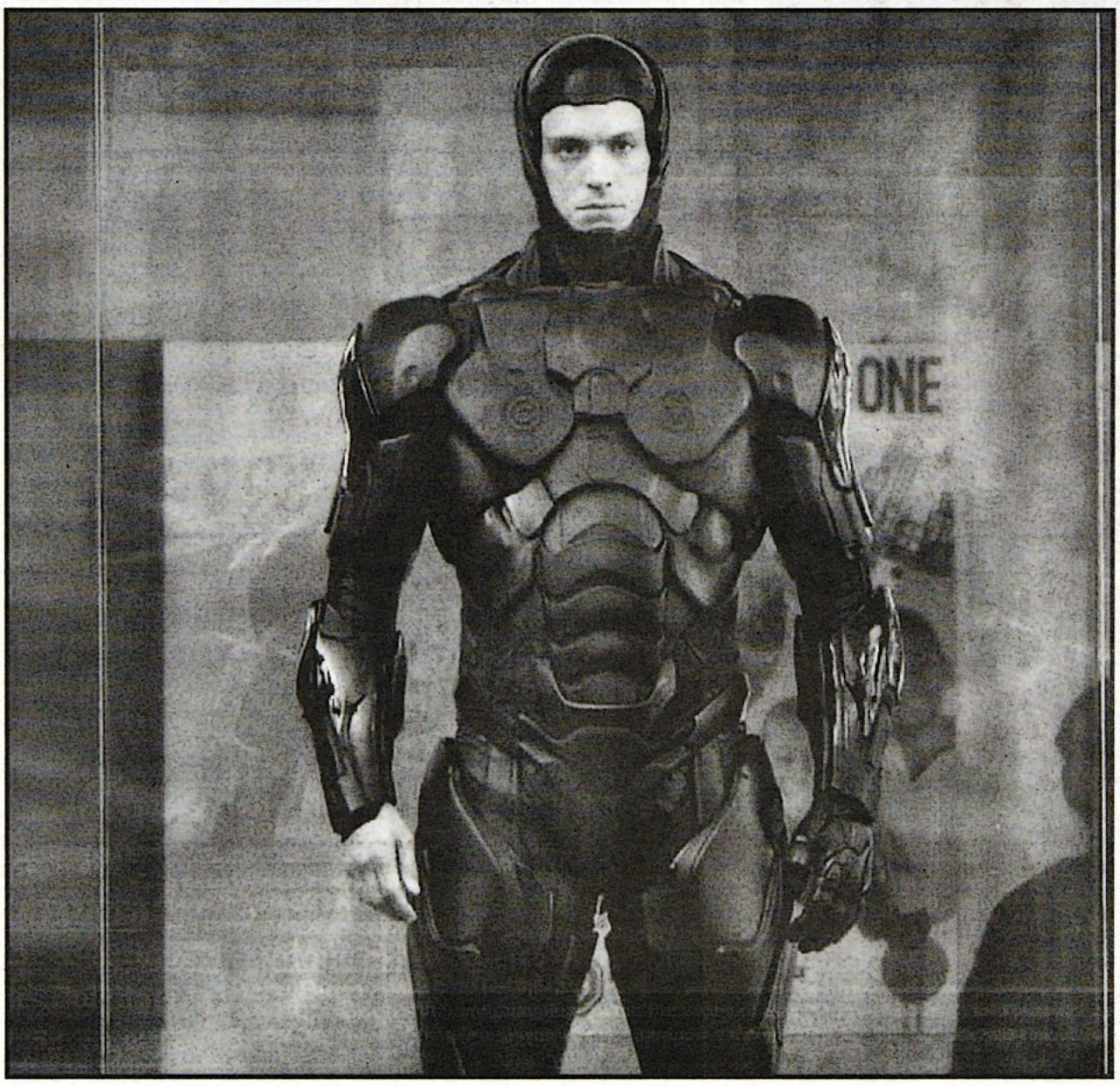
The film barely follows the plot of the original movie. While the original was a dark noir film, the remake is a dramatic action movie. Also, the remake is significantly less violent that the 1987 film, carrying only a PG-13 rating instead of the original's R.

The original "Robocop" is a classic. Whether or not you're a fan of the movie itself, it left a distinct mark on Hollywood and on most who viewed it. Because of this legacy, it would be doing 2014's "Robocop" a disservice to compare it to the original, especially because it is quite clear that it was never intended to be a carbon copy of the 1987 film. Instead, one could think of it as more of a homage to the original's greatness.

On the brighter side, the film's story is significantly stronger than many recent action films. This is due mostly to the fact that "Robocop" isn't a traditional action flick, but more of a drama for the first half of the film. In fact, there is barely any action for the first hour of the movie, with the exception of the film's beginning scenes. If a viewer is watching expecting violence and destruction throughout, they will be sorely disappointed.

Alex Murphy is the main character in the film. Sadly, Joel Kinnaman's acting isn't up to snuff with his role as leading man. Throughout almost the entire film he is stoic, emotionless and incredibly difficult to relate to. Ironically, because of Kinnaman's poor performance, his acting is most believable in the scenes where Omnicorp's doctors render Murphy emotionless.

Alex Murphy's lack of emotions made him an imposing character in his Robocop armor.



The special effects in the film are quite fantastic, with Murphy's robotic body appearing completely realistic. The action is satisfying enough. Some of the gunfights are a bit ridiculous, as it seems many of the criminals in the film have no idea how to fire a gun.

The scene of Murphy's return home showcases some of the film's fantastic camera work. When Murphy walks into the room with his son, everything above his shoulders is cut off by the camera, and he has to kneel down for the audience to see his face. This marvelously portrays how imposing the moment is for his son, whose father has been replaced by this massive machine.

All of the movie's successes take place in the first two thirds of the film, and sadly the final act is quite disappointing. There are some scenes that make it seem as though Murphy's humanity and free will, or lack thereof, are going to be explored, but then some by the book fight scenes take place. This leads to a disappointing ending, with many of the film's early questions about morality, humanity and free will left unanswered.

"Robocop" is a solid film, but leaves something to be desired. Some of the acting is quite poor, the story's quality declines rapidly in the finale and many questions are left unanswered. Even more than all of this, prospective viewers should bear in mind that this isn't just an action movie. If you are looking for pure mindless entertainment, look elsewhere, because "Robocop" is more drama than action. All in all, I would give "Robocop" a five out of ten.

Arts & Entertainment

Get Shell Shocked: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

By Luis Herrera
Contributing Writer

Photo Courtesy of The Official TMNT Movie Twitter

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles is a beloved children's show that has been rebooted in the new film.

If you want to see fighting turtles doing ninjitsu "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" directed by Johnathan Liebesman is the movie to see.

It all starts when April O'Neil (Meagan Fox), a New York journalist, tries to figure out the crimes of the Foot Clan gang led by Shredder (Tohuru Masmune). One night April discovers a strange group of four mutant turtles who fight crime. Eventually, Master Splinter (Tony Shahloub) the guardian of the turtles, gets injured when they are attacked by the Foot Clan and they kidnap three of the turtles. April O'Neil has to become a hero when she and Raphael (Alan Ritchson), one of the turtles, have to save the other three turtles from Shredder, while Shredder and the Foot Clan are trying to infect all of New York City with a toxic virus.

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles consist of four turtles. Leonardo, the wisest turtle, is physically played by upcoming actor Pete Ploszek and voiced by Johnny Knoxville. Raphael (Alan Ritchson) is the most aggressive turtle. Michelangelo (Noel Fisher) is the most spontaneous and eccentric turtle of the group. The last turtle is Donatello (Jeremy Howard) who is known as the brains of the bunch.

Photo Courtesy of The Official TMNT Movie Twitter

The film includes Hollywood stars such as Will Arnett and Megan Fox.

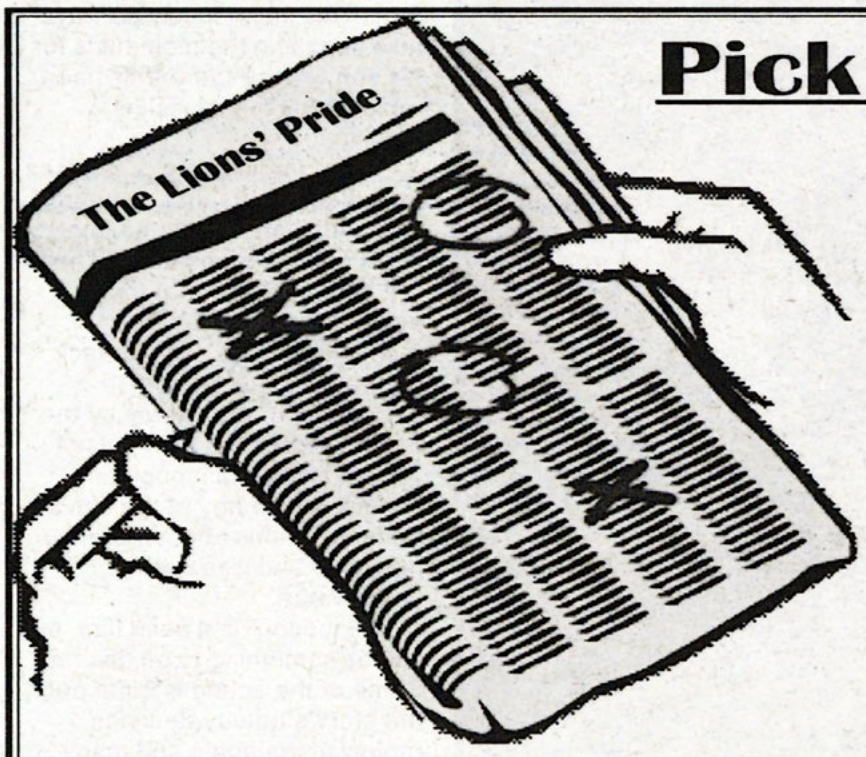
The movie is based on the animated series and the 1990's film "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles." The film takes place in a fictional New York City where a group of villainous dark ninjas called the Foot Clan try to take over the city.

The film had very detailed special effects thanks to Micheal Bay, the producer. The turtles looked like bodybuilders on steroids, and Shredder's armor looked very futuristic.

The soundtrack to the film was decent with the hit "Shell Shock" which is performed by rap artists Juicy J, Ty Dolla $ign and Wiz Khalifa. It was produced by EDM producers Kill the Noise and Madsonik. You can purchase the song "Shell Shocked" on Itunes.

"I actually have Donatello tattooed on my leg, so when they asked me to do it, just being a fan and being a musician, it made sense," said Wiz Khalifa in an interview with "Rolling Stone Magazine." "In my generation, I think everyone who listens to me loves the Turtles as much as I do."

If you grew up watching the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles cartoons, this is the film for you. Also, if you liked "Transformers Age of Extinction" you may enjoy this movie. From a scale of 1-10 I give it a 7.



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